

lified to attend the school in the nature of an usher had his age permitted it. But as he was yet too young to keep the scholars in that awe which is necessary in a school, the master only gave him his board, till the elder scholars left off, and he was grown bigger, intending then to allow him as he did others in that station. But adverse fortune still attends the poor boy: The good old man died in less than a twelve-month; so that *Phil* was a second time obliged to return to his mother, (his father being dead) who not being in a capacity to do for him, as his education and natural talents really deserved, proposed to learn him some trade, in order to get his bread honestly; having by her hard working, and frugal living, made shift to lay up five pounds, and which she dedicated to that purpose. And as there lived in the neighbourhood a locksmith ever since he was born, who being great with his father, would often play with him when a child, and now and then give him farthings to buy fruit, he chose to be bound to him, which was done in about a month's time.

They both agreed wonderfully well, the master being very kind and good-natured, and the man as diligent and careful. But this

this happiness, though slight, is but of short lasting; for the poor man, having been bound for a relation who failed, had all his effects seized upon, and himself thrown into gaol; so poor *Phil* was again obliged to come to his mother.

One day as *Phil*, for want of employment, was rambling by the Thames-side, a captain of a ship bound for the *East-Indies*, taking a particular fancy to him, asked him whether he would go to sea? and that if he was so disposed, he would take him to look after his cabin, and provide very well for him.

The gentle manner in which he spoke to the boy, and his mild countenance, made a vast progress in his affection; so having accepted his offer, he desires that he may run home, and acquaint his mother of it.—The captain having taken his name, and place of abode, gave him half a crown to spend with his mother, then to come to him, and that he need bring no clothes with him, for he would provide every thing necessary for the voyage.

The over-joyed boy, having told his mother of this event, gave her the money, being in great haste to return to his master: So having embraced his tender mother, and she her